

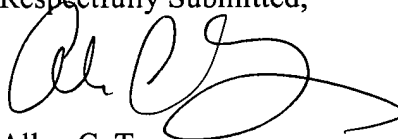
**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 8, 9, 23 and 24 without prejudice.

**REMARKS**

The Office is respectfully requested to enter the above amendments prior to the calculation of the filing fee in this application. Should the Office determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, it is respectfully invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: June 5, 2001

ACT/BLC

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